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Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 60/113 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* A/61/50.

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I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954, Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard, but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme is included in the thirty-first edition of the handbook entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions,[1] the Secretary-General submits to the Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[2] The present report, which covers the period from 26 March 2005 to 23 March 2006, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 60/113 of 8 December 2005.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 58 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the aforementioned resolutions:

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State has also offered scholarships:

Holy See

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 21 February 2006, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Office of the Secretary-General of the following views of the Government of Argentina:

> "The Malvinas Islands were registered by the United Kingdom as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. This registration is a consequence of the illegal British occupation of the Argentine territory that occurred in 1833.
>
> "The United Nations has, on many occasions, indicated that the colonial dispute existing between Argentina and the United Kingdom concerning these territories should be resolved through peaceful negotiations.
>
> "Without prejudice to this and since the islands form part of the national Argentine territory, its inhabitants enjoy — just like the rest of the Argentine population — the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic."

Cuba

8. In a note verbale dated 15 March 2006, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that the number of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories currently studying in Cuba is as follows: Ministry of Public Health: Anguilla (1), Western Sahara (42); Ministry of Higher Education: Bermuda (4), Virgin Islands (1), Western Sahara (42); Ministry of Education: Anguilla (24), Western Sahara (502); Institute of Sports and Recreation: Western Sahara (4). This number includes recipients of scholarships awarded by Cuba to citizens of these Territories in 2005. The Government of the Republic of Cuba is currently considering a scholarship plan for foreign students in 2006-2007, which will include a number of scholarships for students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Once the plan has been approved, the Permanent Mission of Cuba will transmit the relevant information to the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Japan

9. In a note verbale dated 9 March 2006, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that the Government of Japan has offered to make the following five types of scholarship available for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories: (a) research student scholarship; (b) undergraduate student scholarship; (c) special training college student scholarship; (d) teacher training student scholarship; and (e) Japanese studies student scholarship. No scholarship was granted for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in 2005.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

10. In a note verbale dated 17 February 2006, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland informed the Secretary-General that the number of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories that were given Chevening scholarships from 2002/03 are as follows: in 2002/03, British Virgin Islands (3),

Cayman Islands (1), Montserrat (2), and St. Helena (1); in 2003/04, British Virgin Islands (1), Cayman Islands (3), Montserrat (2) and St. Helena (1); in 2004/05, British Virgin Islands (1), Cayman Islands (91) and Montserrat (2); in 2005/06, Anguilla (1), Cayman Islands (4) and Montserrat (1).

III. Applications made through the United Nations

11. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

12. Between 26 March 2005 and 23 March 2006, the Secretariat received a request from one student for information on the availability of scholarships. The student was not an inhabitant of a Non-Self-Governing Territory.

IV. Conclusion

13. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.

Notes

[1] The most recent resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on this question are resolutions 56/68 and 57/134, 58/105, 59/130, 60/113.

[2] For the most recent reports, see A/55/81 and Add.1, A/56/88 and A/57/90 and Add.1, A/58/71, A/59/74, A/60/67.